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PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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International Classification:—A61b.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or Relating to Medicinal or Surgical Plaster or Bandage

We, THE SCHOLL MFG. CO. LIMITED, a British company, of 190 St. John Street, London, E.C.1., England, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to improvements in a medicinal or surgical plaster or bandage and is particularly desirable as a digital bandage for application to a finger or toe to alleviate afflictions of the general character of excrescences, corns, calluses, warts, as well as other afflictions such as cuts or abrasions.

In the past, many and various types of plasters or bandages of the pressure-relieving type have been developed, but in many cases these bandages while capable of transferring the pressure of an article of apparel or the like to healthy tissue surrounding an affliction, were of such construction that the pressure-eliminating portion of the plaster or bandage itself caused some irritation. In other cases, these bandages, if the pressure-relieving portion had a cavity or aperture to receive an affliction, were of such construction that a medicament placed over the affliction would not be in sufficiently close proximity to the affliction, and frequently such items were of such construction that a sudden application of pressure directly over the affliction was not cushioned or rendered at least partially ineffectual by the plaster itself. In other instances, these formerly known bandages did not fit a particular portion of the body, such as a digit, with an effective nicety, but would overlap a digit and extend sideways to an extent that the bandage would cause irritation to, or possibly be disrupted by adjacent digits.

The main object of the invention is to provide a medical or surgical plaster or bandage having a body part or pad of cushioning material with an affliction-receiving cavity

therein with means for cushioning an affliction received in the cavity.

According to the invention a medical or surgical plaster or bandage comprises an elongated thin attaching strip carrying pressure sensitive adhesive on its under face, a pad of cushioning material having an affliction receiving cavity therein and an adhesive under face carried by said strip, and a tab of napped fabric in said cavity in engagement with the adhesive on said strip to overlie the affliction received in said cavity, said tab being thinner than said pad and carrying a medicament exposed on its under surface.

To enable the invention to be more fully understood some embodiments in accordance therewith will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a plaster or bandage;

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the structure of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section along the line III-III in Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows; and,

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical section similar to that in Fig. 3, but showing a slightly different form of construction.

In the drawings the plasters or bandages are purposely shown enlarged beyond their most usual sizes for purposes of clarity. It will be understood that in actual manufacture the bandage or plaster may be made of any desirable size, but in most instances will be made exceedingly smaller, so as adequately to fit around a digit such as a toe or finger.

The construction in Figs 1, 2 and 3, includes an attaching strip 1 which is relatively narrow in its end portions, but which is preferably provided with an enlarged intermediate portion as indicated at 2. Throughout its entire length, this strip is preferably provided on the whole of its under face with

[Price 3s. 6d.]

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a pressure-sensitive adhesive spread 3. This attaching strip may be made of any suitable material but is preferably made of a waterproof material and is imperforate throughout. By way of example, the strip could be a thermoplastic film, a thin plastic-coated fabric, or the equivalent and may have vapour pervious holes therethrough. It is preferably of a length to wrap entirely around a digit with the ends slightly overlapped.

Secured by the adhesive under surface 3 to the under side of the enlarged portion 2 of the strip 1 is a pressure-eliminating pad or body part 4. This may be made of any suitable cushioning material such as felt, foam latex, thermoplastic or other synthetic foam, or the equivalent. As seen best in Fig. 2, the forward and rear edges of the pad 4 are preferably arcuate or curvate as indicated at 5, while the opposed side edges of the pad are preferably straight, as indicated at 6-6, these side edges therefore being substantially parallel to the sides of a digit such as a finger or toe. The pad 4 itself may lie directly upon the digit but will not project beyond the digit in a manner to cause spacing between digits, irritation to an adjacent digit, or disruption or loosening of the pad by contact with an adjacent digit, as would be the case if the pad were completely circular. The pad is provided with an affliction-receiving cavity 7 therein which may be of any suitable size or shape, but which is shown in the form of an aperture, and the pad is of sufficient thickness that an affliction such as a corn or the like may be received within the cavity 7 and the pressure of an article of apparel transferred to adjacent surrounding healthy tissue. On its under face, the pad is also provided with a spread of pressure-sensitive adhesive as seen at 8 in Fig. 3, the better to insure the pad remaining in its desired position during use.

As seen best in Fig. 1, the marginal portions of the pad 4 adjacent the rounded edges 5-5 thereof preferably project beyond the enlarged portion 2 of the strip 1. This facilitates proper positioning of the pad on the body of a user.

In order to relieve and aid in the cure of the particular affliction, a medicated plug or tab is disposed in the affliction-receiving cavity of the pad 4 in position to overlie the affliction itself. This tab or plug may be held in position by the adhesive under surface of the attaching strip 1, or it may be held in position by friction alone. As seen best in Fig. 3, the plug or tab comprises a fabric sheet 9 which is napped on one side as indicated at 10, and preferably this napping is relatively heavy. In this particular embodiment of the invention, the napped side of the fabric is disposed uppermost, and on the smooth under side of the fabric a suitable medicament 11 is provided. While the medi-

cament is shown in the nature of a spread on the under side of the tab in order to facilitate illustration, it will be understood that the pad might be impregnated with some suitable medication, if so desired. Further, it should be noted that the medicated tab is thinner or of less thickness than the cushioning pad 4 so as to leave space in the cavity 7 for reception of the affliction. The structure of the medicated tab brings the medicament in closer proximity to, or in contact with the affliction, whereby full benefit of the medication may be acquired. In addition, it will be noted that the napping 10 on the fabric tab will provide a cushioning effect and act as a shock absorber if through inadvertence sudden pressure or a blow is applied to the outside of the attaching strip 1 directly over the affliction. Sometimes, in the past with previously constructed plasters or bandages, irritation of the affliction was caused by wearing apparel forcing the cover or attaching strip inwardly in the region of the affliction-receiving cavity, so that there was a disagreeable amount of rubbing on the affliction itself. Such irritation or rubbing with the instant invention will be eliminated by virtue of the yielding character of the napping on the medicated tab.

Fig. 4 above shows a slightly different construction, wherein the general structure is the same as above described. In this instance, however, the medicated tab is reversed in position, with the fabric portion 9 uppermost, and the napping 10 depending therefrom, the medicament 11 being applied to the napping 10 rather than to the smooth side of the fabric. This may be more desirable in connection with certain types of afflictions.

In use, the plaster or bandage may be easily and quickly applied to a digit over an affliction. Assuming a corn to be the affliction, it is a simple expedient to place the plaster or bandage so that the corn is directly beneath the medicated tab within the cavity 7, and wrap the end portions of the attaching strip 1 around the toe. The waterproof nature of the attaching strip permits the user to bathe the foot and leave the plaster or bandage in position.

Thus a simple form of plaster or bandage of the pressure-relieving type is provided for digits which not only fits the digit in a neat and effective manner, transfers pressure to healthy tissue around an affliction, but also brings medicament closer to the affliction and renders a shock-absorbing service against blows or pressure applied directly over the affliction, to a considerably greater extent than was possible with similar appliances made heretofore. Obviously, the instant invention with its improved features may be very economically manufactured, and is extremely durable.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A medicinal or surgical plaster or bandage, comprising an elongated thin attaching strip carrying pressure sensitive adhesive on its under face, a pad of cushioning material having an affliction receiving cavity therein and an adhesive under face carried by said strip, and a tab of napped fabric in said cavity in engagement with the adhesive on said strip to overlie the affliction received in said cavity, said tab being thinner than said pad and carrying a medicament exposed on its under surface.
2. A plaster or bandage according to Claim 1 wherein, the napped side of the tab is uppermost, the medicament being exposed to the affliction on its under surface.
3. A plaster or bandage according to Claim 1 wherein, the napped side of the tab is lowermost to contact the affliction, the

uppermost unnapped side being in engagement with the adhesive of said strip.

4. A plaster or bandage according to any one of Claims 1 to 3 wherein, the attaching strip is of waterproof material.

5. A plaster or bandage according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 wherein, the pad has parallel sides disposed transversely of the strip to be substantially parallel to a digit when the strip is attached round the digit.

6. A plaster or bandage according to any one of Claims 1 to 5 wherein the pad is of a foamed sheet-like material.

7. A plaster or bandage substantially as herein described with reference to Figures 1 to 3 or Fig. 4 of the accompanying drawings.

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842,847

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

1 SHEET

This drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.

FIG.1.

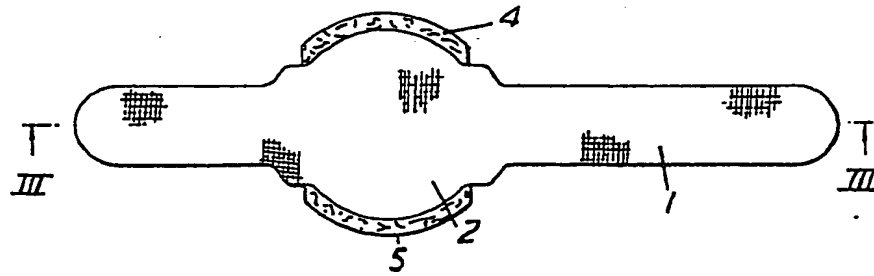


FIG.2.

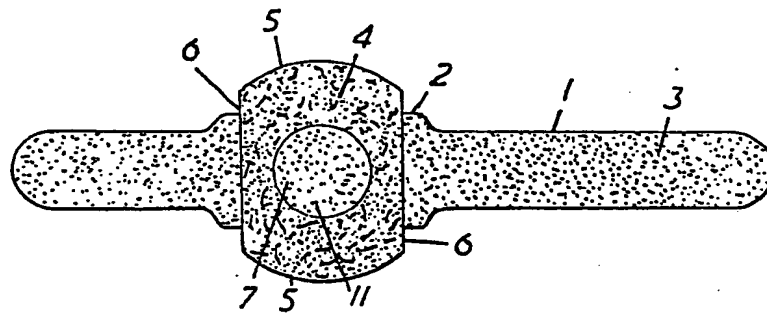


FIG.3.

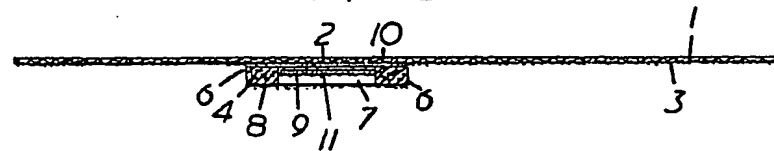


FIG.4.

